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PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 08/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/053,931
	Filing Date	February 4, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Dana C. Mears
	Art Unit	3732
	Examiner Name	Michael B. Priddy
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	ZM0414 DIV1

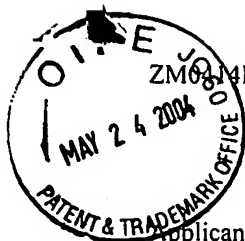
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<b>Remarks</b> Form PTO1449 Copy of European Search Report Return Receipt Postcard		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Jonathan D. Feuchtwang Zimmer Technology, Inc.
Signature	
Date	20 May 2004

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Signature	
Date	20 May 2004

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ZM044B DIV1

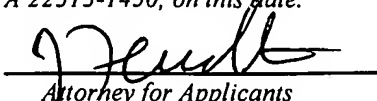
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mears et al  
Serial No.: 10/053,931  
Filed: January 22, 2002  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
PERFORMING A MINIMALLY  
INVASIVE TOTAL HIP  
ARTHROPLASTY  
Art Unit: 3732  
Examiner: Michael B. Priddy

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May 20, 2004  
Date

  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 41,017

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the C.F.R. §1.97(b) time period, but before the mail date of a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance (whichever occurs first), with either:

- (a) a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e); or
- (b) the \$180.00 fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant n(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

(X) Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e):

(X) The enclosed references were cited in a Communication issued by the European Patent Office (copy enclosed). Applicant(s) hereby certify(ies) that each item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

(X) Applicant(s) hereby certify(ies) that no item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

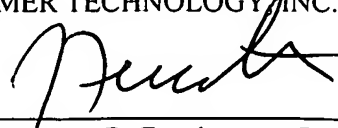
( ) Enclosed is a check for \$180.00 to cover the fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2779. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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ZIMMER TECHNOLOGY, INC.

By:   
Jonathan D. Feuchtwang, Reg. No. 41, 017

